

Subpart I—Servicing Requirements**§ 3565.401 Servicing objectives.**

The participating lender is responsible for servicing the guaranteed loan throughout the term of the loan or guarantee, whichever is less. In all cases, the lender remains responsible for liquidation of the property in accordance with the Loan Note Agreement, unless otherwise determined by the Agency. A lender-servicing plan must be designed and implemented to achieve the following objectives.

- (a) To preserve the value of the loan and the real estate;
- (b) To avoid a loss to the lender or the Agency and to limit exposure to potential loss;
- (c) To protect the interests of the tenants; and
- (d) To further program objectives.

§ 3565.402 Servicing responsibilities.

The lender must service the loan in accordance with this subpart and perform the services contained in this section in a reasonable and prudent manner. The lender is responsible for the actions of its agents and representatives.

(a) *Funds management.* The lender must have a funds management system to receive and process borrower payments, including the following.

(1) All principal and interest (P&I) funds and guarantee fees collected and deposited into the appropriate custodial accounts.

(2) Payments to custodial escrow accounts for taxes and insurance premiums, assessments that might impair the security (such as ground rent), and reserve accounts for repair and capital improvement of the property.

(b) *Asset management.* The lender must ensure that the property securing the guaranteed loan remains in good physical and financial condition, in accordance with project management requirements contained in subpart H of this part.

(c) *Management of delinquencies and defaults.* Each month the lender must report to the Agency any delinquencies and defaults in accordance with subpart H of this part.

§ 3565.403 Special servicing.

Special servicing must be initiated when regular servicing actions are insufficient to resolve borrower default or property deficiencies.

(a) *Responsibility of lender.* It is the lender's responsibility during special servicing to make a special effort to ensure that maintenance of the property meets Agency requirements and the tenants' rights are protected, until such time that the property is liquidated by the lender, the loan is paid in full, or the loan is assigned to the Agency. The lender must update the Agency monthly until the default is cured or a claim is filed. The lender must maintain adequate records of any and all efforts to cure the default or to foreclose.

(b) *Initiating special servicing.* When special servicing is initiated, the lender must submit for Agency review a special servicing plan that includes proposed actions to cure the deficiencies and a timeframe for completion. The special servicing plan will specify the proposed terms of any workout agreement recommended by the lender. The lender must obtain Agency approval of the terms of any workout agreement with the borrower. The workout agreement may include a loan modification, transfer of physical assets, or partial payment of claim and reamortization of the loan. Failure to comply with terms contained in the executed workout agreement will be considered a default of the guaranteed loan.

(1) *Loan modification.* The borrower and lender may agree to a loan modification when such action will improve the financial viability of the project and its operations, and when a circumstance exists that is beyond the borrower's control. The Agency must approve in advance any loan modification that extends the life of the loan or requires an increase in the amount of the guarantee. All changes must be within the requirements of section 538 of the Housing Act of 1949.

(2) *Change in ownership and transfer of physical assets.* A default or delinquency may be resolved by a change of the ownership entity in whole or in part. The Agency must approve all

changes in ownership prior to the effective date of the transfer, and may require additional resources from the lender or borrower to resolve project deficiencies.

(3) *Partial payment of claims.* The lender may request a partial payment of claim as a result of a loss experienced by the lender as a means to work out a troubled loan. The Agency will accept such claim if it determines that it is in the best interest of the government. In applying the partial payment, the lender must assign the obligation covered by the partial payment to the Agency, and, if required by the Agency, reamortize the obligation using the amount of the remaining obligation over an agreed-upon term.

(c) *Claims processing.* In the event of a loss, the lender must submit claims under the guarantee in accordance with subpart J of this part. Prior to submitting a claim, the lender must exhaust all possibilities of collection on the loan.

(d) *Displacement prevention.* The actions of the lender must not harm the property's tenants through displacement.

[63 FR 39458, July 22, 1998, as amended at 67 FR 16971, April 9, 2002]

§ 3565.404 Transfer of mortgage servicing.

Transfer of servicing is prohibited unless the Agency determines that circumstances warrant such action, the proposed lender is an eligible lender approved by the Agency, and the transfer of servicing is approved by the Agency in advance.

§§ 3565.405–3565.449 [Reserved]

§ 3565.450 OMB control number.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no party is required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0575–0174.

Subpart J—Assignment, Conveyance, and Claims

§ 3565.451 Preclaim requirements.

(a) *Lender certifications.* After borrower default and before filing a claim or assignment of the loan to the Agency, the lender must make every reasonable and prudent effort to resolve the default. The lender must provide the Agency with an accounting of all proposed and actual actions taken to cure the default. The lender must certify that all reasonable efforts to cure the default have been exhausted. Where the lender fails to comply with the terms of the loan guarantee agreement and the corresponding regulations and guidance with regard to liquidating the property, the Agency, at its option, may take possession of the security collateral and dispose of the property.

(b) *Due diligence by lender.* For all loan servicing actions where a market, net recovery or liquidation value determination is required, guaranteed lenders shall perform due diligence in conjunction with the appraisal and submit it to the Agency for review. The Phase I Environmental Site Assessment published by the American Society of Testing and Materials is considered an acceptable format for due diligence.

(c) *Environmental review.* The Agency is required to complete an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, in accordance with 7 CFR part 1940, subpart G or a successor regulation, prior to disposition of inventory property, if title is held by the Agency, and prior to any authorization to the guaranteed lender to foreclose and dispose of property, and for any other servicing action requiring Agency approval or consent.

§ 3565.452 Decision to liquidate.

(a) A decision to liquidate shall be made when it is determined that the default cannot be cured through actions contained in § 3565.403 of subpart I or it has been determined that it is in the best interest of the Agency and the lender to liquidate.